
San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT BASIN PLAN AMENDMENT

Proposed Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin to Incorporate Site-Specific Water Effect Ratios into Total Maximum Daily Loads for Copper and Zinc in Chollas Creek

Background

The current Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (Basin Plan) includes Chollas Creek Metals Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) that went into effect on October 22, 2008. Due to limited site-specific data during Chollas Creek Metals TMDLs development, a default water effect ratio (WER) value of 1 was used to calculate numeric targets for metals. Since that time, site-specific data has been collected and the equations expressing the proposed numeric targets for copper and zinc have been revised to include site-specific WER values that take into account the physical and chemical characteristics of the water in Chollas Creek. This approach is consistent with USEPA's water quality criteria for toxic pollutants in inland surface waters, enclosed bays, and estuaries; the California Toxics Rule (40 CFR 131.38). If adopted, the proposed Basin Plan amendment would establish site-specific WER values. This would result in an increase in numeric targets for copper and zinc, which are calculated using water hardness-dependent formulas.

Document Availability

The Tentative Order is available for review on the San Diego Water Board web site: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/board_decisions/tentative_orders/index.shtml

Board Adoption

The San Diego Water Board will consider adoption of the Tentative Order at its February 8, 2017 Board meeting, which starts at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will be held at the San Diego Water Board office at 2375 Northside Drive, San Diego, California 92108. The meeting agenda is available online.

www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/board_info/agendas/2017/Feb/Feb8.shtml

Additional Information

To receive future updates by email, subscribe to the "**Basin Planning Issues**" email list on our Email Subscriptions web page.

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/reg9_subscribe.shtml

For additional information, please contact Melissa Valdovinos at (619) 521-8039 or at Melissa.Valdovinos@waterboards.ca.gov.